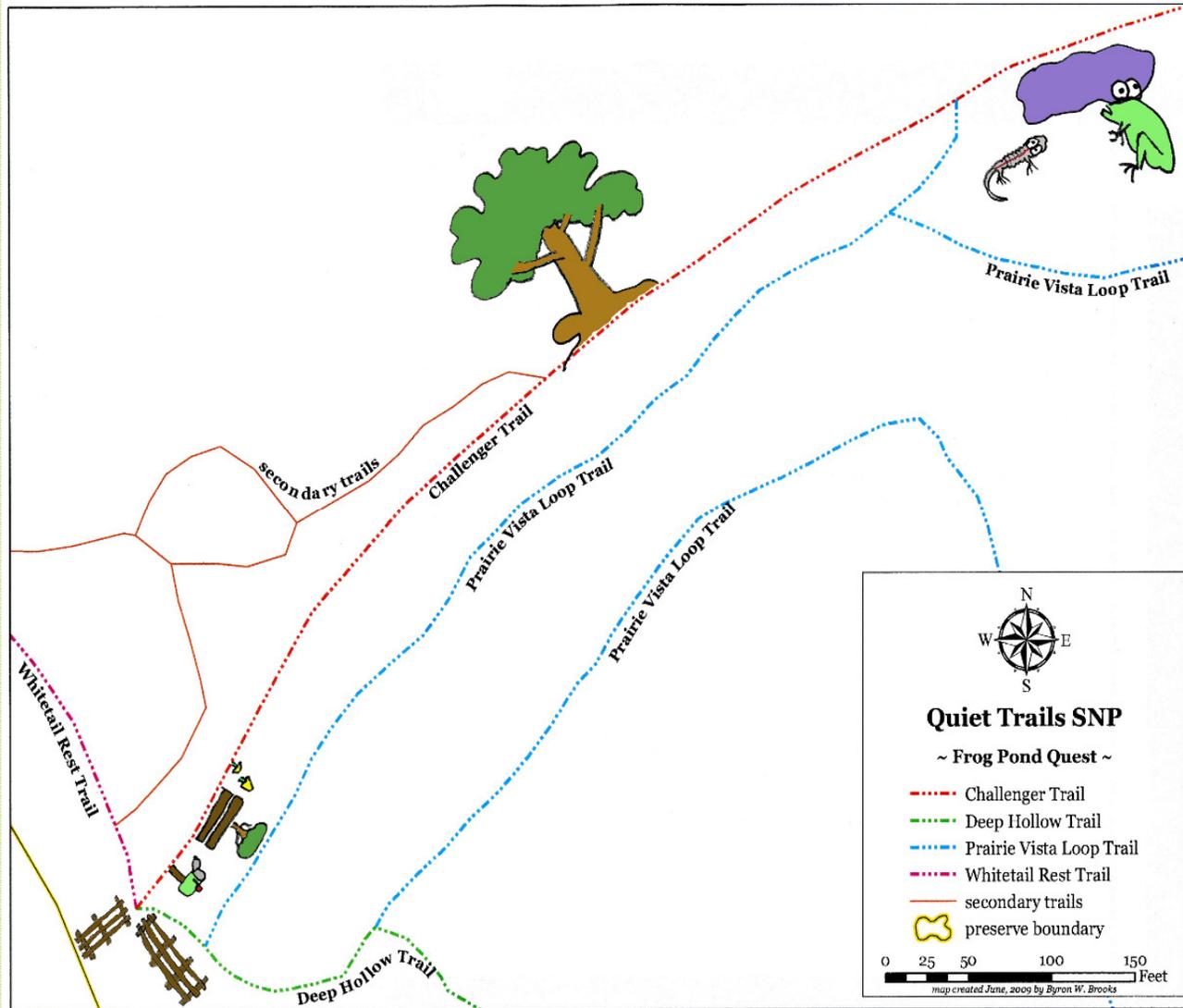


Now after this is done you can be a frog and jump all around.  
For your trek has ended and your destination has been found!!



**To get there:** From Cynthiana, take U.S. 27 north for approximately 10 miles. Turn right onto KY 1284, which leads into Sunrise. Continue straight onto Pugh's Ferry Road after crossing the four way intersection. The Preserve parking area is located on the right, 1.8 miles from the intersection.



Kentucky Questing sites can be found across the Commonwealth. Go to <http://eekentucky.org> to find one near you.

## Quiet Trails State Nature Preserve Kids Quest

Follow the clues  
touch, look and listen  
to learn who and what  
can be found living at  
Quiet Trails.

**Difficulty:** easy  
**Walking Conditions:** Hiking trail/  
Road bed  
**Type of Quest:** nature  
**Ages:** children

Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission  
801 Schenkel Lane  
Frankfort, KY 40601



First, look to your left and find a hole.  
Through the fence you will go.  
Look to your right and find a trail.  
Follow it and look for something that was built to hold mail.

Open it up and sign your name.  
Now you are ready to start the game.

Look to your left and find the wooden seat  
It's covered with two things that we think are quite neat  
Here are a few hints to see if you can guess each one's name  
The two are very similar, but they are most certainly not the same

The first one is green and squishy to feel  
It's a short, little plant but a very big deal  
It has tiny stems and very shallow roots  
It looks like a carpet and tickles the bellies of salamanders and newts!  
Are you ready to guess or are you at a loss?  
The first thing you are looking for is what we call moss!!

The second one comes in many different colors  
So many different kinds, making them unlike any other  
If you are here in winter, they may not be here  
Remember to look for them in the warmer months of the year  
Neither plant nor animal, but in a kingdom of their own  
You've probably seen them in your very own home  
Mushrooms and molds to name a few  
Come in all shapes and sizes, so enjoy the view  
They love to recycle nutrients back into the system  
But take my advice and do not try to eat them  
They sit around and feed on things as they die  
To clean up the forest, where they are known as fun-gi!!

Before you move on down the trail  
There is one more thing to see before you bail  
Just behind the wooden seat,  
There stands a honey locust tree with bark so neat.  
It's the one that looks just like its peeling  
Reach out and touch it, those high ridges are definitely worth feeling

As you move on up the trail, to your left you will find.  
A big northern red oak tree standing so sublime.  
How do you know which one we are talking about?  
There is one big thing that will leave little doubt.  
Look closely at its feet and you will see  
A huge, unusual thing growing at the base of this tree  
It's a great big knot, known as a burl  
The hole in it provides shelter and storage for a chipmunk or a squirrel

Now continue on, but please make like a bobcat and sneak.  
For in the spring or summer you might get a peek.  
Of a frog as it leaps or a salamander as it swims along.  
In this pond that they both call their home.  
A little advice if you want to see a frog leap  
Try and stay quiet, not even a peep  
As you get closer, slow down to a creep.  
All along the edges they sit  
If you hear a belly flop, you know this is it!

The pond is full of life no matter the season  
So let's go through all four and find out the reason.  
Undoubtedly spring is the best time to see  
Baby tadpoles and insects that are called larvae.  
But the best of the best, better than any other  
Is to be here anytime during the summer.  
Listen close and you just might hear  
A chorus of frogs singing at this time of year!  
But soon they begin to wriggle to the shallow bottom  
Where they take a long nap beginning in autumn  
During the winter the pond may be frozen  
But down in the mud the frogs are comfy and dozing.

